

**Club Rules**

Cardiff & Vale Riding Club is a not for profit organisation which is a fully affiliated member of the British Riding Clubs, and operates under British Riding Club rules

All Club Members should ensure that they are familiar with the rules and by becoming a member agree to abide by these rules.

The Club asks that members show respect at all times to other members of the club, instructors, visitors and the Committee.

The Club is not liable for any accidents that may occur to riders, horses, ponies, spectators, helpers or their property whilst participating in any riding club activity.

**Membership**

Our membership year runs from 01 October each year membership fees must be paid promptly in order for us to register our membership list with British Riding Clubs (BRC).

All applications for, or renewals of, membership are at the discretion of the Committee. The decision of the Chair is final.

If fees are not paid by the end of October, membership will be cancelled.

For insurance purposes, any member who has not paid their membership will be ineligible for any mounted club activities.

**Riders and Horses**

Riders and/or horses must be over 4 years old.

All children under 18 years must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Riders horses must be in walk at any time the doors to the school are open.

Riders working at a slower pace, or in walk must ride on an inner track.

Riders pass left hand to left hand when passing in the school.

No trotting or cantering in car parking areas.

All droppings are to be collected in the school and car parks. Members are expected to have their own poop scoops, otherwise scoops are available in the schools.

Please report any hazard or potential hazard to the instructor or a committee member as soon as you become aware of it.

Horses that have been in an area with an ill horse or horses that are known to be suffering from any illness should not be brought to any club events. Horses should not be allowed to touch nose to nose in order to reduce the risk of spreading disease.

**Tack and equipment**

Hard hats must be worn at all times and must comply with current BRC regulations.

All tack must be correctly fitting and in good repair and condition. The committee and instructors reserve the right to refuse the use of certain equipment at club nights, clinics and events or to exclude riders wearing or using incorrectly fitting, poorly maintained or inappropriate tack, clothing or equipment.

It is highly recommended that body protectors are worn by all riders at all times. Body Protectors must be of the standard currently required by the BRC (either the BETA Level 3 Purple 2009 OR the BETA Level 3 Blue 2018

All children under the age of 10 years should wear body protectors when mounted.

Body protectors are compulsory for all riders participating in club Cross Country events, lessons, camps or clinics, indoor or outdoor, where the obstacles are fixed or rigid. Riders and horses not found to be wearing suitable safety equipment will be prohibited from participating. It is the member’s (or guardians’) responsibility to ensure that correctly fitting safety equipment is worn. Information on safety equipment and body protectors can be found at [http://www.beta-uk.org/pages/safety-equipment/body-](http://www.beta-uk.org/pages/safety-equipment/body-protectors.php) [protectors.php](http://www.beta-uk.org/pages/safety-equipment/body-protectors.php)

**Lessons**

Lessons are for the enjoyment and progression of club members. When you book into a lesson or clinic you make a commitment to pay, even if you do not attend. All payments must be in advance, at the time of booking.

A rolling programme of lesson plans will be published on the Club website and Facebook page, and are usually for the following 1 or 2 month period.

Members should contact the Club Lesson Co-Ordinator to book lessons, either via Facebook or by private message to the Lesson Co-Ordinator. The Club will do its best to accommodate member’s specific requests, but may offer them alternative times. Lessons are filled on a first come first served basis.

Payment for lessons or clinics booked cannot be refunded, but you may make arrangements to fill your space with a member at a similar level of riding. Please contact the Lessons co-ordinator to discuss arrangements.

Payments should be made by BACS transfer to the Club bank account, stating the name of the member as the reference.

Please arrive in good time for your lesson.

Please keep the noise in the viewing gallery to a minimum. No shouting into the lesson while the lesson is in progress.

Members must show courtesy and respect to instructors at all times, and accept that the instructor’s decisions in lessons is final.

Do not open the doors to schools without the instructor’s permission. If you are late for a lesson you must not enter the school without prior permission from the instructor.

The Club may publish member’s and competitor’s names on its website, Facebook, other media and on relevant documentation, which may disclose dates and times of booked lessons, clinics and competitions.

The Club may take photographs/video films at Club lessons and events and other events where members are representing the Club. The photographs/film will be used by the Club for general publicity and could be used on Cardiff and Vale Riding Club website, social media sites, or Club promotional materials. If you do not wish to appear in any images captured please let us know by emailing us at: info@cardiffandvaleridingclub.com

**Competitions**

Competitions are subject to BRC rules and the Club Rules.

Depending on the event entries may be taken on the day or in advance. See the event schedule form for details of entry.

No refunds are given, and on payment of the entry fee the BRC and Club rules are deemed to have been understood and accepted.

Competitors must wear the correct riding attire, and hard hats to the current BS standard must be worn at all times whilst mounted.

No horse or pony under 4 years of age may compete in any event

Respect must be shown at all times to other competitors and spectators. Outside of show ring and practice area walking on horses only permitted.

The organisers reserve the right to cancel, amend or alter classes if deemed necessary.

The decision of the judges is final

**Representing the Club**

Any members who put themselves forward to compete in the Area 15 team/individual qualifiers must be available to represent the club at the championships, if the club is invited to compete.

If a team(s) or individual(s) qualify for British Riding Clubs championships it is anticipated that, subject to the availability of funds, the Club will pay the entry fee and may agree on the subsidy to the members to assist in the expenses of attending. This may differ for each event and will depend on funds available.

No claim can be made to the Club for any expenses incurred following a Member being disqualified for not complying with the flu/passport and/or equipment rules.

**Conduct**

The Committee may cancel an individual’s membership in the event of misconduct and the Chair's decision is final.

Misconduct may include (but is not limited to):

* Showing a lack of courtesy, or disrespect to instructors, members, visitors or the Committee, e.g., argues, behaves offensively or with incivility or contempt, uses of abusive or threatening language
* Conduct which is detrimental to the club or which could bring the Club into disrepute
* Acting in a way that risks danger to the health, safety or wellbeing others

**Complaints**

Complaints must be made in writing to the committee at info@cardiffandvaleridingclub.com and will be considered by the committee at the next committee meeting. The Club will not deal with verbal complaints.

**Amendment to the Rules**

These rules will be reviewed by the Committee periodically and may be added to, repealed or amended. Updated rules will be published in the Club website and members made aware of any significant changes

**Club Constitution**

**Name and Purpose**

The Club shall be known as the Cardiff and Vale Riding Club. The purpose of the Club shall be:

(a) To promote participation in and provide facilities for the amateur sport of riding in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan

(b) To encourage riding as a sport and recreation, to promote good fellowship amongst riders

 and to improve and maintain the standard of riding and horsemanship.

(c) To organise instructional meetings, lectures and competitive events and other activities to

 further the objects.

(d) To be affiliated to The British Horse Society and to support and co-operate with recognised

 organisations interested in the breeding and use of all breeds and types of horses and ponies.

(e) To concern itself with any object which will benefit the horse and horse user in the district.

**Membership**

Club membership shall include adult members (over 18s) and junior members (17 and under).

A member shall complete the membership form as prescribed by the committee. Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. The committee may refuse membership only for good cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal may be made to the Committee. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.

The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of the Club’s financial year. Any member

whose subscription is more than one month in arrears shall have his or her name removed from

the membership list.

The Committee may expel from membership of the Club any member who has breached any of the

rules of the Club, or who has in the opinion of the Committee have been guilty of any conduct

derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interest of the Club, provided that before expelling

him or her the Committee shall allow the member to appeal the decision to the members and provide an explanation of his/her conduct and allow a proper opportunity of answering the allegations against him/her.

**Administration**

All powers of management shall be vested in the Committee consisting of the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and at least 2 other Committee members. For so long as the Club had junior members the Committee shall include a Safeguarding Officer. 4 Committee members shall form a quorum.

The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Committee from amongst their number and the decision of the Committee shall be final unless over-ruled at a General Meeting.

The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules and for anything relating to the club not provided therein and their decision shall be final and binding on the members.

The Committee may fill any vacancy arising amongst members of the Committee and/or adult Club members.

**Financial Year**

The financial year of the Club shall commence on 01 October in each year.

The annual subscription shall be determined annually by the Committee. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.

**Meetings**

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in September/October of each year for the following purposes:

(a) To receive a statement of the Club’s Accounts to the end of the preceding year.

(b) To fill vacancies on the Committee

(c) To present annual trophies and awards

(d)To deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to bring to the members

 and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee.

A special General Meeting may be called by the Committee, or by a request signed by not less

than five members specifying the business to be discussed. Members will be given advance notice of the date of such a meeting, including the reason for the meeting.

**Accounts**

The Accounts of the Club shall be independently verified each year.

All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.

In the event that dissolution of the Club shall occur, the assets of the Club shall be used first to discharge all liabilities of the Club and the remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered CASC, a registered charity or the sport’s governing body for use by them in related community sports.